

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 WARSAW 7030

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PL, US, CSCE

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI'S MEETING WITH POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER
OLSZOWSKI, OCTOBER 17, 1975, 9:00-10:15 A.M.--US-POLISH
RELATIONS

REF: WARSAW 6945

1. SUMMARY: OLSZOWSKI WAS CORDIAL IN DISCUSSING THE IMPROVING
COURSE OF US-POLISH RELATIONS, INCLUDING THE POLISH GOVERNMENT'S
ATTITUDE TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THIRD-BASKET PROVISIONS
OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. ON THE DIVIDED-FAMILIES ISSUE, HIS
PRESENTATION WAS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THAT MADE BY VICE
FOREIGN MINISTER SPASOWSKI TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN ON
OCTOBER 7, ALTHOUGH HE WAS MORE CONCERNED TO GIVE THE
CONGRESSMAN THE IMPRESSION OF BEING FORTHCOMING. END
SUMMARY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER OLSZOWSKI EXPRESSED HIS PLEASURE
AT THE OPPORTUNITY OF TALKING WITH CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI.
HE OFFERED HIS HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE CONGRESS-
MAN'S HONORARY DOCTORATE. EVERYBODY IN POLAND, HE SAID,
KNOWS ABOUT CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI AND ABOUT THE HELP HE
HAS GIVEN TO POLAND. "WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE
WITH YOU", HE SAID. OLSZOWSKI WAS AWARE OF THE CONVER-
SATION THE CONGRESSMAN HAD HAD WITH FIRST SECRETARY
GIEREK, WHO HAD BEEN VERY IMPRESSED BY THE CANDOR WITH
WHICH THE CONGRESSMAN HAD PRESENTED HIS POINT OF VIEW.
SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF, OLSZOWSKI SAID HE RECALLED WITH
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PLEASURE HIS MEETINGS WITH THE CONGRESSMAN IN THE U.S.

3. CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED TO BE IN POLAND AGAIN. HE DEEPLY CHERISHED THE HONORARY DOCTORATE WHICH HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY THE JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY. HE HAD GREATLY APPRECIATED THE LENGTHY DISCUSSION HE HAD HAD WITH THE FIRST SECRETARY. THERE WAS ONLY ONE DRAW-BACK AS A RESULT OF THAT EXHAUSTIVE CONVERSATION: THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT FOR HIM TO RAISE WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. SECRETARY GIEREK HAD TOLD HIM TO TAKE UP THE DETAILS WITH OLSZOWSKI, BUT THERE WERE HARDLY ANY DETAILS HE COULD RAISE AFTER HIS DISCUSSION WITH SECRETARY GIEREK. IN ALL SERIOUSNESS, HOWEVER, THERE WERE SOME PROBLEMS THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MENTION.

4. THE VISITS OF PRESIDENT FORD TO POLAND AND SECRETARY GIEREK TO THE U.S. WERE GOOD EXAMPLES OF HOW WE CAN FIND SOLUTIONS TO COMMON PROBLEMS. EXPECTATIONS ARE HIGH IN THE U.S. FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE. AS THE FOREIGN MINISTER KNEW, PRESIDENT FORD HAD BEEN STRONGLY CRITICIZED FOR GOING TO HELSINKI. FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE, EXPECTATIONS WERE HIGH IN THE U.S., PARTICULARLY ON THE THIRD-BASKET ITEMS: REUNIFICATION OF DIVIDED FAMILIES, FREED TO TRAVEL, AND THE OTHER HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS DEALT WITH IN THAT PART OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT. "I WOULD LIKE TO CARRY BACK WITH ME SOME WORD ABOUT PROGRESS ON THESE MATTERS", THE CONGRESSMAN SAID. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WERE OVER 800 DIVIDED-FAMILIES CASES WHICH THE EMBASSY HAD BEEN DISCUSSING WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THIS NUMBER WAS VERY SMALL BY CONTRAST WITH THOSE IN QUESTION IN OTHER COUNTRIES, E.G., THE USSR. IT WOULD BE A GREAT PITY IF OUR PROGRESS WERE HAMPERED BY PROBLEMS OF SUCH RELATIVELY SMALL DIMENSIONS. CONSEQUENTLY, HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE SOME WORD TO TAKE BACK WITH HIM TO THE UNITED STATES.

5. OLSZOWSKI SAID THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD DONE A VERY GOOD THING WHEN HE WENT TO HELSINKI. HIS PRESENCE THERE HAD GREATLY ENHANCED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT. THAT DOCUMENT DID NOT REPRESENT INTERNATIONAL LAW; CONFIDENTIAL

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IT WAS A DECLARATION OF INTENTIONS. BUT PRESIDENT FORD HAD DONE A STILL BETTER THING BEFORE HE WENT TO HELSINKI: HE HAD VISITED POLAND. HE HAD TALKED WITH ALL THE MOST IMPORTANT POLISH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LEADERS; HE HAD LAID A WREATH AT OSWIECIM; HE HAD SPOKEN TO A LARGE CROWD IN THE MARKET SQUARE AT KRAKOW. THE POLISH GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT WITH ALL POSSIBLE SERIOUSNESS, WITH EVERY CONFIDENCE AND

CONVICTION THAT ITS PROVISIONS WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED. THE POLISH POPULATION HAD BEEN WIDELY INFORMED ABOUT THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE POLISH PRESS AND IN PAMPHLET FORM. THIS HAD NOT HAPPENED IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES. ON OCTOBER 23, PRIME MINISTER JAROSZEWICZ WOULD ADDRESS THE SEJM AND LAY OUT THE APPROACH OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT. LIKE EVERY OTHER MINISTRY, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD BEEN ASKED BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO SUBMIT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS ON FULFILLMENT OF THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT WHICH FELL WITHIN ITS ADMINISTRATIVE COMPETENCE. THE MINISTRIES WERE TO REPORT BY THE END OF NOVEMBER. THE POLISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED ALL PARTS OF THE FINAL ACT AS OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE. WITH REGARD TO BASKET THREE, THE POLISH GOVERNMENT WAS IN FAVOR OF IMPLEMENTING THE GROWTH OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND THE SOLUTION OF HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS. AS THE CONGRESSMAN HAD REMARKED, THERE WERE NOT TOO MANY CASES PENDING BETWEEN THE U.S. AND POLISH SIDES. "WE WILL CONSIDER ALL THOSE CASES, ONE BY ONE AND STEP BY STEP", HE SAID. "WE DON'T THINK WE'LL HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY IN DOING THIS". THERE ARE NARROW-MINDED PEOPLE IN EVERY SOCIETY. THE SOLUTION OF THESE CASES WAS NOT A MATTER FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ALONE. THE POLISH GOVERNMENT HAD A MORE LIBERAL VISA POLICY THAN SOME OF THE NEIGHBORING STATES. OLSZOWSKI SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ABOUT THIS AND GENSCHER WAS SURPRISED AT HOW LIBERAL THE POLES WERE. SEVERAL YEARS AGO, THERE HAD BEEN MORE RESTRICTIONS ON ISSUING PASSPORTS TO POLISH CITIZENS. BUT NOW PASSPORTS ARE BEING ISSUED "AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE". THE GOVERNMENT WANTED POLES TO TRAVEL AND SEE THE WORLD AND WANTED OTHER PEOPLE TO COME TO POLAND AND

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SEE IT. TURNING TO ME, HE SAID THAT HE HAD GREATLY ENJOYED THE CHORUS OF BOYS AND GIRLS WHICH HAD BEEN BROUGHT OVER HERE AND WHICH PERFORMED FOLLOWING THE DINNER PRESIDENT FORD HAD GIVEN AT WILANOW. AFTER HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY GIEREK, THE CONGRESSMAN KNEW HOW MANY CHANGES THERE HAD BEEN IN OTHER AREAS OF POLISH LIFE. "IF THERE ARE EMERGENCY CASES", HE SAID (OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO THE DIVIDED-FAMILIES QUESTION), "PLEASE BRING THEM TO MY ATTENTION OR TO VICE MINISTER SPASOWSKI'S". POLAND WANTED TO EXPAND ITS RELATIONS

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WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WITH THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE, WITH THE GERMAN PEOPLE, WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE WITH THE SWEDISH PEOPLE. FOR POLAND, THIS WIDE SPECTRUM OF CONTACTS WAS USEFUL AND PROFITABLE. "OUR MAJOR OBJECTIVE IS TO CONSOLIDATE POLAND'S POSITION IN THE WORLD. IF POLAND IS STRONG, HE WILL SURVIVE".

6. CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI SAID THAT POLAND WOULD CERTAINLY SURVIVE. THE NATIONAL HYMN MAKES THAT CLEAR. HE WAS INTRIGUED BY THE ORDER IN WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD MENTIONED THE PEOPLES WITH WHICH POLAND MUST HAVE CONTACT: THE AMERICANS, THE RUSSIANS, THE GERMANS; HE FOUND THIS SIGNIFICANT. WITH REGARD TO CULTURAL EXCHANGES, THE LAST U.S. VISIT OF THE MAZOWSZE SONG-AND-DANCE TROUPE, LIKE ALL ITS EARLIER ONES, HAD BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. THE CONCERT HALLS WERE NOT BIG ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE EVERYBODY WHO WANTED TO SEE IT. THE MILITARY TROUPE WHICH HAD VISITED THE MIDDLE WEST WAS ALSO VERY SUCCESSFUL; IT HAD PERFORMED IN THE CONGRESSMAN'S DISTRICT. HE WAS VERY HAPPY TO HEAR ABOUT THE OCTOBER 23 SEJM SESSION. HE HAD BEEN WITH SPEAKER CARL ALBERT DURING THE SPEAKER'S VISITS TO THE USSR, ROMANIA, AND YUGOSLAVIA. IN NONE OF THOSE COUNTRIES HAD THE DELEGATION RECIEVED SO FORTHCOMING AN ANSWER ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT AS THAT WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD JUST GIVEN HIM. IF THIS WERE CARRIED OUT, POLAND WOULD AGAIN BE IN THE LEAD, AS IT SHOULD BE.

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7 THE CONGRESSMAN SAID THAT HE HAD MENTIONED ONE PROBLEM WE HAD. HE DID NOT WANT THE CONVERSATION TO BE ONE-SIDED. DID THE POLES HAVE SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE U.S.? OLSZOWSKI SAID THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE MUTUAL TRUST. HE WOULD NOT LIKE TO MENTION ANY PARTICULAR CASES. WE CAN WORK OUT OUR PROBLEMS ON THE WORKING LEVEL. THERE HAD BEEN SOME: THE GRAIN EMBARGO, THE QUESTION OF LICENSING U.S. TECHNOLOGY. BUT THOSE COULD BE WORKED OUT. IN HIS OPINION, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WAS US-SOVIET RELATIONS. POLAND HAD ACTIVATED ITS POLICY IN TWO DIRECTIONS. FIRST, WITHIN THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY, BY ENCOURAGING THE USSR AND THE OTHER WARSAW PACT ALLIES TO EXPAND DETENTE AND ACHIEVE BETTER RELATIONS WITH THE US AND THE WEST. SECOND, TOWARDS THE US AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES, BY ITSELF IMPROVING ITS RELATIONS WITH THEM. DETENTE MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO CONSOLIDATE POLAND'S POSITION. SO, THE FOCAL POINT OF THE POLISH LEADERSHIP IS ITS HOPE FOR CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS.

8. CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR THE UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE THE POLISH LEADERSHIP HAD TAKEN TOWARDS THE GRAIN EMBARGO. HE FELT HE COULD ASSURE THE MINISTER THAT THE U.S. HAD NO INTENTION OF INCREASING ITS TRADE WITH THE USSR AT POLAND'S EXPENSE.

9. COMMENT: OLSZOWSKI WAS PLAUSIBLE ON THE DIVIDED-FAMILIES ISSUE. IN FACT, HOWEVER, HIS PRESENTATION IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE POSITION CONVEYED TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN BY VICE MINISTER SPASOWSKI ON OCTOBER 7(REFTEL); ONLY THE TUNE WAS PLEASANTER. END COMMENT.
DAVIES

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